

What is Claimed is:

1. A digital camera comprising;
a processing unit, the processing unit including a
memory unit, the memory unit storing a sequence of
5 images;
a shutter, the shutter being activated in response
to signals from the processing unit
a photosensitive region for receiving an image when
the shutter is activated, the image on the shutter being
10 stored in the memory unit; and
a display unit for displaying images stored in the
memory unit;
wherein the digital camera has a first mode of
operation in which the shutter is activated a preselected
15 period of time in response to a first user input, the
sequence of images being displayed on the display during
the preselected period of time, the display being visible
to image subjects.
- 20 2. The digital camera as recited in claim 1 wherein the
sequence of images provides a visual count-down for the
activation of the shutter.
- 25 3. The digital camera as recited in claim 2 wherein the
sequence of images is applied periodically to the
display.

4. The digital camera as recited in claim 1 wherein the digital camera has a second mode of operation, the shutter being activated immediately in response to the
5 second user input.

5. The digital camera as recited in claim 1 wherein the display is rotatable, the display being rotated to face the image subjects in the first mode of operation.

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6. A method of acquiring an image with a digital camera, the method comprising:

after a first user input signal, delaying activation of the shutter for a predetermined period of time; and

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during the predetermined period of time, displaying a sequence of images to the subject images on the camera display.

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7. The method as recited in claim 6 wherein the sequence of signals provides a count-down for the activation of the digital camera shutter.

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8. The method as recited in claim 6 wherein the digital camera includes a second mode of operation, the shutter being activated without delay by a user input in the second mode of operation.

9. A digital camera having an auto-exposure mode and a normal mode of operation, the digital camera comprising:

a processing unit, the processing unit including a memory unit, the memory unit storing a sequence of images

5 and images acquired by activation of the shutter;

a shutter unit responsive to signals from the processing unit for activation;

a photo-sensitive region for acquiring an image when the shutter is activated, an acquired image being stored

10 in the memory unit; and

a positionable display, the display displaying an acquired image in response to a first user input, the display displaying the sequence of images to image subjects prior to activation of the shutter after a 15 preselected period of time in response to a second user input.

10. The digital camera as recited in claim 9 wherein the shutter is activated without delay in response to a third

20 user input.

11. The digital camera as recited in claim 10 wherein the sequence of images is displayed periodically.

25 12. The digital camera as recited in claim 10 wherein the sequence of images permits the image subjects to anticipate the activation of the delayed shutter.

13. The digital camera as recited in claim 10 wherein
the sequence of images is a series of numbers.

14. The digital camera as recited in claim 10 further
5 comprising a flash assembly wherein activation of them
flash assembly is coordinated with activation of the
shutter.

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